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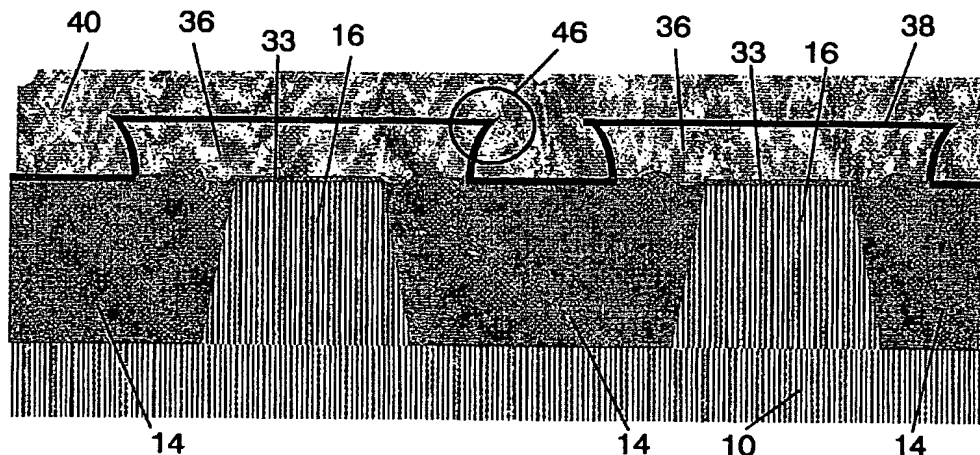
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLOATING GATE ISOLATION AND METHOD OF MAKING



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for forming a set of floating gates which are isolated from each other by means of slits, as well as semiconductor devices using the floating gate. The present invention provides a method for manufacturing an array of semiconductor devices on a substrate (10), each device having a floating gate (36), comprising: first forming isolation zones (14) in the substrate (10), thereafter forming a floating gate separator (32) on the isolation zones (14) at locations where separations between adjacent floating gates (36) are to be formed, after forming the floating gate separator (32), forming the floating gates (36) on the substrate (10) between parts of the floating gate separator (32), and thereafter removing the floating gate separator (32) so as to obtain slits in between neighboring floating gates (36). This method has an advantage over prior art in that less residues of floating gate material, or less floating gate material shorts between adjacent floating gates occur. Furthermore, the gate profile is damaged less than in prior art slit processing methods.

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 261 905 B1 (CHEN JONG ET AL) 17 July 2001 (2001-07-17) column 4, line 42 - column 8, line 18; claim 9; figures 1-4	1,9,11
X	US 6 060 358 A (BRACCHITTA JOHN A ET AL) 9 May 2000 (2000-05-09) column 6, line 27 - column 8, line 8; figures 3-18	1,9-11
X	US 6 146 970 A (CHEN MIKE HSIAO-HUI ET AL) 14 November 2000 (2000-11-14) column 6, line 1 - column 9, line 40; figures 6-14	1-9,11
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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